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MAY 16 2006

PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: LEAPS-C11  
CUSTOMER NO: 36038

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: )  
M. Seul )  
Serial No. 10/645,426 ) Group Art Unit: 1641  
Confirmation No. 8876 ) Examiner: Do, Pensee T.  
Filed: 6/21/2003 )  
For: Arrays Formed of Encoded Beads Having )  
Ligands Attached )

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary Amendment

Interview Summary (5/15/2006)

After receiving the Final Rejection of 5/8/2006, the undersigned called the Examiner, pointed out that the primary prior art reference, Gombinski, does not disclose "different particle-attached ligands, wherein different ligands are attached to different particles and said particles are encoded with a chemical or physical characteristic that permits identification of the ligand or ligands attached thereto," because Gombinski only discloses (for certain embodiments) encoding of particles by their spatial-location – not by a "chemical or physical characteristic." The undersigned also discussed possible amendments to the claims which would make the case allowable – which are not incorporated in the attached claims. The Examiner is thanked for the time